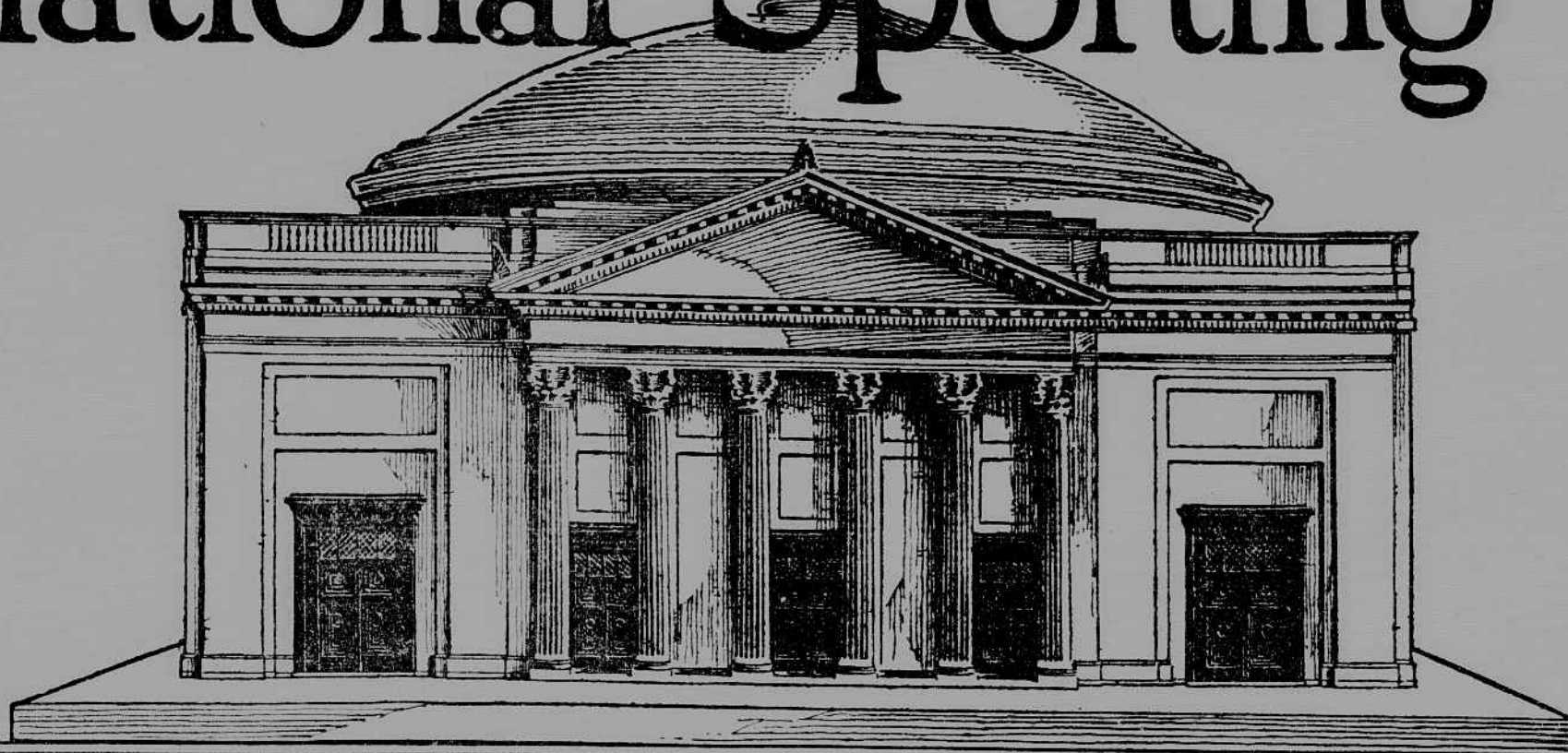


# International Sporting Club



## Banquet to WILLIAM A. GAVIN

Commodore Hotel  
Grand Ball Room

Monday Evening, January 17

### BANQUET COMMITTEE

Col. William B. Baker	Admiral Henry T. Mayo
Mr. August Belmont	Mr. W. Forbes Morgan
Mr. Gutzon Borglum	Hon. Harry S. New
Mr. Adolph E. Borie	Mr. Herbert L. Pratt
Mr. John McE. Bowman	Hon. Key Pittman
Mr. Nicholas F. Brady	Hon. Miles Poindexter
Mr. Walter Camp	Dr. Joseph E. Raycroft
Mr. Thomas D. Conroy	Mr. H. H. Rogers
Mr. Joseph P. Day	Capt. Kermit Roosevelt
General Coleman du Pont	Col. Theodore Roosevelt
Mr. Roswell F. Easton	Mr. G. L. Rickard
Mr. Charles Dana Gibson	Mr. Frederick W. Rubien
Mr. Harvey D. Gibson	Mr. Charles Schwab
Mr. Charles Gould	Mr. R. Breckenridge Steele
Dr. John A. Harriss	Admiral Wm. S. Sims
Mr. Frank H. Hitchcock	Mr. William H. Todd
Mr. C. Oliver Iselin	Mr. R. T. Vanderbilt
Mr. Otto H. Kahn	Mr. Rodman Wanamaker
Mr. Foxhall P. Keene	Mr. James H. Ward
Alderman W. P. Kenneally	Hon. Bartow S. Weeks
Sheriff David H. Knott	Hon. Charles S. Whitman
Hon. Franklin K. Lane	Mr. Harry Payne Whitney
Mr. Adrian S. Larkin	Mr. Payne Whitney
Mr. Alfred L. Marilley	Maj.-Gen. Leonard Wood

### The Senate of The State of New York Albany

December 9, 1920.

Dear Mr. Borglum:

I am writing you on a matter which has been in my mind for some time, but pressure of other affairs has prevented my giving it the attention it deserves.

While credit is being freely given in the press and elsewhere to men in the public eye and those engaged in the promotion of boxing, there is one man to whom credit belongs more than to any other for the satisfactory condition in which boxing exists today—the real father, the pioneer of rejuvenated, up-lifted boxing in the State of New York. I refer to Mr. William A. Gavin. It was he who drew the bill; it was he who brought to its support that great array of distinguished citizens, of prominent professional men, of leading commercial lights, as well as the sympathy and active cooperation of no less than a *thousand* *clergymen* in the State of New York. He brought to the support of the bill which I sponsored the prestige and the influence of our great Admirals of the Navy and the Generals of our Army. No campaign, of this kind, was ever before handled in so masterly a manner, and in the doing of this he was supremely unselfish and self-sacrificing, devoting all his time to it to the complete exclusion of his own private interests and affairs.

And yet, incredible as it may seem, when praise is given for the restoration of boxing in our State one never hears the mention of his name.

But the time has now come when he must be literally dragged from the obscurity in which he has chosen to enshroud himself, and charged with full responsibility for the drafting, for the promotion, and, in fact, for the passage, of the Walker Boxing Bill which is working so admirably and giving so much satisfaction to the sporting public of our State. It will be easy to convict him of this charge, and I know of no better co-prosecutor than your distinguished self. I am sure you will be glad to join with me in arranging some proper and, I hope, adequate, form of recognition of this great public benefactor and lover of clean and manly sports, William A. Gavin.

Very sincerely yours,

*James J. Walker*

December 14, 1920.

Dear Senator Walker:

I am in hearty accord with your desire to honor my friend, Mr. William A. Gavin, for the great work he has done—work which has been done without reward of any kind whatsoever and prompted solely by a love of the game, of which he himself was at one time so capable an exponent. He came to my studio nearly three years ago and invited me to join him in a campaign to lift boxing in America to the level it had attained in other countries.

This was a difficult request to accede to, as at that time this splendid sport had been dragged through the mire and seemed hopelessly discredited. He assured me that it was in an even more deplorable condition in England and France a quarter of a century ago, when Lord Lonsdale fearlessly placed himself at the head of the National Sporting Club and lifted boxing to the level of every other first class sport.

He reminded me that the United States Government had officially approved boxing by making it an indispensable part of the military training of 2,000,000 men. No such opportunity might arise again, and now was the time to strike. He promised me that if I and others, whom he named, would join him in a campaign, he would found a great Club which would be at once the national headquarters of boxing and its citadel of defense; he would restore boxing to the statute books in the State of New York; form a great national association, and advance all the requisite preliminary expenses. Brave words, these! But, mirabile dictu! he has fulfilled them to the letter.

You have recounted some of the obstacles he surmounted in the passing of the bill—they were great, no doubt, but they were small compared with those he has encountered in the founding of the International Sporting Club; and these difficulties were small again in comparison with the formidable obstacles which stood in the way of convincing the Governors of twenty great commonwealths of the wisdom and the necessity of forming a national body. This end was reached only by intensive work covering a period of nearly two years. In several states the press and the public had to be stirred where appeals by letter were met by apathy and unconcern, and personal journeys undertaken to distant parts of the country.

It seems that boxing, which has been the black sheep of the family of sports and of which Masterlinck has well said, "It is not a coincidence that nations that love boxing do not know the knife," is at last destined to come into its own.

Very sincerely yours,

INTERNATIONAL SPORTING CLUB,

*Gutzon Borglum*

Chairman, General Committee



John Ruff  
Middleweight  
N.Y. Police



Wm. Spengler  
Heavyweight  
N.Y. Police



Arthur P. Ryan  
U.S. Army



Ralph Fitchie  
U.S. Navy



John Watson  
Heavyweight  
British Navy



Capt. E. V. Chandler  
Heavyweight  
British Army



Jack Stanley  
Heavyweight  
London Police



Harry Mella  
Middleweight  
London Police



Hugh Brown  
Lt. Heavyweight  
British Army



Light Heavyweight  
U.S. Army

## Great International Tournament

A unique event, in which the Champions of the Army, Navy and Police Force of Great Britain have traveled 3,000 miles to assert their superiority over the Champions of America, having no fabulous purses to reward them in victory or defeat, no incentive greater than the honor and glory which they will take proudly back to their country if victorious. These sturdy young Britons are the vanguards of others from the Mines, the Forests and the Looms of England, who will follow them to challenge the supremacy of America's sons of toil. In the Pine Forests of Louisiana, in the Copper Mines of Duluth, and in many other centers of strenuous industry, elimination tournaments are now being held to find the worthiest foemen to meet the invading Briton.

### Important Notice

All who desire to attend the above Banquet and Tournament should make immediate application for Resident Membership on the attached coupon. Terms: Initiation fee, \$250, payable by instalment if preferred; Annual dues, \$100.

### COUPON

ADAM EMPIE, Secretary  
International Sporting Club, 107 W. 41st St., New York  
Phone: Brant 2763-3872

I desire to submit my name for Resident Membership in the International Sporting Club.

Bankers: